

**We claim:**

1. A method for transmitting synchronization messages, comprising the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of synchronization messages having at least two  
5 types of synchronization messages, where at least one type of synchronization message is valid and where at least one type of synchronization message is invalid.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the invalid type of synchronization  
10 message has an incorrect length.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has at least one missing field.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the invalid type of synchronization  
15 message has at least one field containing invalid data.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message does not conform to a protocol revision specified in the synchronization  
20 message.

6. A method for transmitting synchronization messages, comprising the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of synchronization messages having at least two  
25 types of synchronization messages, where at least one type of synchronization message is valid and where at least one type of synchronization message is invalid and where the at least two types of synchronization messages are time division multiplexed using an uneven distribution.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the at least two types of synchronization  
30 messages contain data specifying a same protocol revision.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message does not conform to the protocol revision specified in the synchronization message.

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9. The method of claim 8, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has an incorrect length.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has at least one missing field.

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11. The method of claim 8, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has at least one field containing invalid data.

12. A method for transmitting synchronization messages, comprising the steps of:

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transmitting a plurality of synchronization messages having at least two types of synchronization messages, where at least one type of synchronization message is valid and where at least one type of synchronization message is invalid and where the at least two types of synchronization messages contain data specifying a same protocol revision; and

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transmitting at least one paging message instructing a receiver conforming to the same protocol revision to reacquire a synchronization message.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least two types of synchronization messages are time division multiplexed using an uneven distribution.

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14. The method of claim 13, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message does not conform to the protocol revision specified in the synchronization message.

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15. The method of claim 14, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has an incorrect length.
16. The method of claim 14, wherein the invalid type of synchronization  
5 message has at least one missing field.
17. The method of claim 14, wherein the invalid type of synchronization message has at least one field containing invalid data.